

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR
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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 A PLACE FOR MOM, INC., a Delaware
11 corporation,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 LISA PERKINS, an individual,

15 Defendant.

CASE NO. C20-1028-JCC

MINUTE ORDER

16 The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable John C.
17 Coughenour, United States District Judge:

18 This matter comes before the Court on the parties' stipulated motion to seal (Dkt. No.
19 62). The parties move to maintain under seal the confidential list of referral sources attached
20 as Exhibit A to the parties' Stipulation for a Permanent Injunction. (*Id.*) "There is a strong
21 presumption of public access to the court's files." W.D. Wash. Local Civ. R. 5(g). This
22 presumption applies particularly to "dispositive pleadings," which includes exhibits attached to
23 such pleadings. *Kamakana v. City & County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1179 (9th Cir. 2006).
24 To overcome this presumption, there must be a "compelling reason" for sealing that is "sufficient
25 to outweigh the public's interest in disclosure." *Id.*; see *Center for Auto Safety v. Chrysler*
26 *Group, LLP*, 809 F.3d 1092, 1101–03 (9th Cir. 2016). "[T]he 'compelling reasons' standard does

1 not require the court to find an infringement of trade secrets if the material at issue is disclosed.
2 Rather, it only requires that disclosure ‘might become a vehicle for improper purposes,’
3 including the ‘release of trade secrets.’” *PTP OneClick, LLC v. Avalara, Inc.*, Case No. C19-
4 0640-JLR, Dkt. No. 87 at 8 (W.D. Wash. 2019) (quoting *Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1179)). Here,
5 the exhibit at issue contains Plaintiff’s purported trade secrets, the disclosure of which could
6 cause Plaintiff substantial economic and competitive harm. (*See* Dkt. No. 15 at 2; Dkt. No. 18 at
7 4.) Thus, maintaining the exhibit under seal is necessary to prevent the Court’s files from being
8 used for an improper purpose and to avoid irreparable harm to Plaintiff. *See PTP OneClick, LLC*,
9 Case No. C19-0640-JLR, Dkt. No. 87 at 8. Accordingly, the Court finds compelling reasons to
10 maintain the exhibits under seal, GRANTS the parties’ motion (Dkt. No. 62), and DIRECTS the
11 Clerk to maintain Docket Number 63 under seal.

12 DATED this 25th day of August 2021.

13 Ravi Subramanian
Clerk of Court

14 s/Sandra Rawski
15 Deputy Clerk

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